

Nantwich Urban District.

REPORT

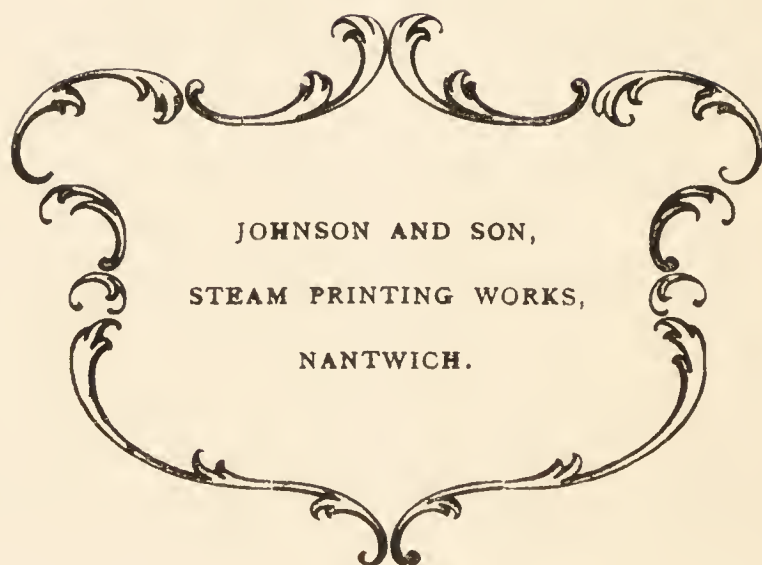
— OF —

Medical Officer of Health,

FOR YEAR 1909.

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Nantwich Urban District.

Report of Medical Officer of Health,

FOR THE YEAR 1909.

Medical Officer of Health :—DR. J. D. MUNRO.

Population at Census, 1901 :—7,722.

Estimated Population, middle of 1909 :—7,962.

Birth-rate per 1,000 living :—23·2.

Death-rate per 1,000 living :—15·9.

Deaths under one year to 1,000 births :—162.

In 1909 the *Births Registered* numbered 185. In first quarter 48, in second 46, in third 49, and in fourth 42. Of these, 17 were illegitimate, equal to 9 per cent. The Birth-rate, 23 per 1,000 population, is very low.

The *Deaths Registered* numbered 114, and adding 12 deaths which occurred in the Workhouse Hospital, and one in the Infectious Hospital, of residents belonging to this district, brings the number to 127.

In the first quarter there were 44 deaths, in second 25, in third 27, and in fourth 31.

Infant Mortality—Thirty of the deaths were infants under one year old, viz:—6 Diarrhœa, 1 Whooping Cough, 6 Debility, 1 Malnutrition, 3 Bronchitis, 1 Premature Birth, 6 Marasmus, 1 Laryngitis, 2 Congenital Heart Disease, 1 Pneumonia, 1 Convulsions, and 1 Burnt to Death.

The infant mortality, which is at the rate of 162 deaths under one year to 1,000 births, is again abnormally high. This is chiefly due to the deaths from Diarrhœa, Debility, and that wasting disease called Marasmus.

Since the adoption of the Notification of Births' Act, leaflets giving instructions on the feeding and bringing up of children are distributed by the District Nurse. All the children born amongst the working class are visited by the Nurse, and instructions given as to their treatment.

Babies' Day Nursery still continues to do good work, and is much appreciated by many mothers who work in factories. Eighty children have been nursed there during the year, and the attendances made by these children numbered 4,688.

Infectious Diseases—81 cases were reported, viz:—67 Scarlet Fever, 9 Diphtheria, 1 Enteric Fever, and 4 Erysipelas.

The deaths from Zymotic Diseases numbered 14, viz:—1 Diphtheria, 5 Measles, 1 Whooping Cough, and 7 Diarrhœa.

The *Zymotic Death-rate* is 1·7 per 1,000.

Enteric Fever—One case was reported in June, and removed to Hospital. The disease was contracted outside the district from eating oysters.

Scarlet Fever—67 cases were notified. No deaths. 50 cases were removed to the Isolation Hospital. Scarlet Fever was prevalent during the second quarter of the year.

The Church Schools in Market Street and Wood Street were closed from June 7th to July 3rd, on account of the prevalence of the disease amongst the children attending these schools.

The disease upon the whole was of a mild type, and this was, I believe, the chief cause of the spread of infection. Some of the cases were so mild that the parents scarcely noticed the children were ill, and neglected to call in a medical man.

Most likely some undetected cases were attending school, but I was unable to discover them when I inspected the school children.

Diphtheria—Nine cases were reported, and five of them were removed to Hospital. One case died.

Sanitary defects were found and remedied at nearly all the houses where the cases occurred.

Measles was epidemic during the third quarter, and five deaths were reported from this disease. The public schools were closed for a fortnight at the end of August, on account of the epidemic.

Whooping Cough—A large number of cases occurred during the first quarter. One death was recorded, where the disease was complicated by Pneumonia.

Erysipelas—Four cases were reported. No deaths.

The Isolation Hospital at Alvaston has been of great advantage to the district, and the public have been willing to make use of it. 56 cases were admitted from this district.

Disinfection of bedding and clothing is carried out at the Isolation Hospital. Disinfection of rooms is systematically carried out, and disinfectants are supplied to each case reported.

Smallpox Hospital has been kept in readiness for use, but has not been required during the year.

Diarrhoea caused 7 deaths, 6 of which were under 1 year old.

Lung Diseases—*Phthisis* caused 5 deaths, equal to a death rate of .6 per 1,000. *Bronchitis and Pneumonia* was the cause of death in 25 cases, giving a death rate of 3 per 1,000.

Heart Disease caused 18 deaths, equal to a death rate of 2 per 1,000.

Inquests—Nine inquests were held during the year, concerning deaths of residents in this district. The verdicts returned were as follows:

Heart disease ...	...	...	...	4 cases.
Found drowned	...	...	...	1 case.
Burnt to death	...	...	...	1 case.
Bronchitis ...	...	...	...	1 case.
Pneumonia ...	...	...	...	1 case.
Marasmus ...	...	...	...	1 case.

Sewage Disposal Scheme—The matter is now in the engineer's hands, and plans for L.G.B. enquiry are being prepared.

Water Supply—The supply from the Baddiley Water Works has been fairly well maintained, but during the dry part of the year there was a scarcity of water, and pumping was resorted to, as in previous years.

New Water Supply—Negotiations have now been completed and the site acquired. The engineer is proceeding with surveys, and also preparing plans and notices, giving the necessary three months notice of works to be constructed without the district.

Tanneries—An expert has lately visited the tanneries, and reported on the treatment of waste liquids from them. He advises that these liquids shall receive treatment before entering the sewers, and his suggestions are about to be carried out.

Registered Lodging Houses number five. These have been regularly inspected, and found clean and orderly.

The Sanitary Inspector has measured and cubed up all the rooms set apart for sleeping, and found some of them overcrowded.

Revised schedules, with the numbers permitted to occupy the respective rooms were drawn up, giving each lodger a minimum of 300 cubic feet air space, and these schedules were hung in the sleeping rooms.

Registered Slaughter Houses number ten. These have been frequently inspected and found in a cleanly state. One slaughter house in North Crofts has been put on the register.

One case of tuberculosis was discovered in a localised form, and the affected portion of the carcase was destroyed.

Dairies and Cowsheds number ten. The Inspector has made several complaints as to lighting, ventilation, water supply, and drainage of these, and the defects are receiving attention.

Factories, Workshops, and Bakehouses have been frequently inspected. Ten nuisances have been reported and received attention.

Canal Boats—Twenty-nine have been inspected. No cause for complaint was found in any of them.

J. D. MUNRO.

28TH JANUARY, 1910.